

Message Text

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PAGE 01 DAKAR 03770 281147Z

43

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02

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R 281120Z JUN 75

FM AMEMBASSY DAKAR

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1396

INFO AMEMBASSY CONAKRY

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT

EON/AMEMBASSY BANJUL (BY POUCH)

C O N F I D E N T I A L DAKAR 3770

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: PFOR, SG, PU, UR, MARR, MASS

SUBJECT: SENEGAL CONCERNED OVER SOVIET ROLE IN GUINEA-BISSAU

1. EMBOFF RECENTLY DISCUSSED WITH PRESIDENT'S CABINET DIRECTOR, MOUSTAPHA NIASSE, SOVIET PRESENCE IN GUINEA-BISSAU. NIASSE SAID BITH HE AND PRESIDENT SENGHOR WERE CONCERNED WITH INROADS SOVIETS MAKING IN BOTH GUINEA-BISSAU AND GUINEA. HE AND PRESIDENT FEARED THAT SOVIET UNION MIGHT EVENTUALLY SUCCEED IN ESTABLISHING NAVAL BASE RIGHTS IN GUINEA, GUINEA-BISSAU AND CAPE VERDE ISLANDS.

2. NIASSE TOLD EMBOFF THAT PRESIDENT SENGHOR HAD, DURING HIS MEETING WITH LUIS CABRAL JUNE 11, STRESSED NEED FOR GUINEA-BISSAU TO AVOID OVER-COMMITMENT TO ANY SINGLE FOREIGN POWER. HE SAID SENGHOR TOLD CABRAL HE UNDERSTOOD GUINEA-BISSAU'S GREAT NEED FOR ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE BUT WARNED THAT OVER-DEPENDENCE ON ONE POWER COULD HAVE AN UPSETTING EFFECT ON BISSAU'S WEST AFRICAN NEIGHBORS AND THEIR ATTEMPTS TO WORK OUT REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT SCHEMES WITH EEC AND OTHER WESTERN DONORS. NIASRSE

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PAGE 02 DAKAR 03770 281147Z

ADDED THERE NO DOUBT IN CABRAL'S MIND THAT SENGHOR REFERRING TO

SOVIET UNION. CABRAL PROMISED SENGHOR, NIASSE CONTINUED, TO FOLLOW NON-ALIGNED FOREIGN POLICY AND ACCEPT ASSISTANCE FROM ALL SIDES.

3. SUBJECT OF POSSIBLE PERMANENT SOVIET NAVAL AND MILITARY BASE RIGHTS IN CAPE VERDES NOT RAISED, NIASSE SAID. SPEAKING FOR HIMSELF, NIASSE FEARED THAT SOVIETS MIGHT ACCOMPLISH LONG-TERM GOAL OF OBTAINING BASE RIGHTS THROUGH USE OF FISHERIES PROJECTS. HE AWARE OF SOVIET PLANS ESTABLISH FISHING PROJECTS IN GAMBIA, GUINEA-BISSAU AND MAURITANIA. (HE DID NOT MENTION THAT SENEGAL HAS BEIGGEST SOVIET FISHING PRESENCE IN AREA.) NIASSE SAID CABRAL AND PAIGC LEADERSHIP VERY EAGER EXPLOIT FISHING GROUNDS OFF BISSAU AND CAPE VERDE ISLANDS. HE THOUGHT THEY MIGHT NOT BE OVERLY WORRIED CONCERNING SOVIET LONG-RANGE INTENTIONS.

4. NIASSE ALSO SAID HE IS WORRIED ABOUT POLITICAL ORIENTATION OF PAIGC LEADERS BELOW CABRAL. HE BELIEVED THERE HIGH DEGREE OF POLITICAL NAIVETE AND LACK OF AWARENESS OF COMMUNIST GOALS THROUGHOUT LEADERSHIP.

AGGREY

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